

## 2018 SV-QRP International Low Power Marathon

The purpose of this Marathon is to increase the QRP activity. Using the WW (Maidenhead) Locators and the power level of the two communicating stations, the longest "contact distance" using QRP power can be determined. (See the calculation formula below).

The 3<sup>rd</sup> International SV-QRP Marathon will run from **October 19th (00.00 UTC)** till **November 30th (23.59 UTC) 2018**.

That is 42 days, as the Classic Athens Marathon Run course has the length of 42 kilometers.

This Ham activity is not a contest. You can think of it as a statistical "game" dealing with low power levels and a long continuous presence on the HF bands of Ham stations using QRP practices.

The process and study of the received log entries and QSOs can assist to the extraction of useful information about the propagation using low power, at this time of the Solar cycle.

The rules:

**Radio Amateurs all over the world that are keen on QRP operation are welcomed to participate.**

Contacts can be carried out in all the HF bands from 10m to 160 m, including the WARC bands, using the following modes: CW, SSB, DIGITAL (RTTY and PSK31 **only please**). Contacts in DIGITAL modes should specify their type (RTTY or PSK31) in the comments column of the logging software.

To make contacts with other stations we do not call "CQ contest!" nor do we exchange any serial number. We simply try making contacts by calling "CQ" or "CQ DX". Then upon establishing contact with the other station we ask for its QTH Locator and its transmitting power.

Marathon participants should use QRP power levels of 5 watts or less, with any antenna type. The other (corresponding) station in the QSO however, may use any power level and antenna type.

QRP participants are permitted to ask the contacted station to reduce power during the QSO, so that a better result/score can be achieved. Such request could "motivate" the other station to make more frequent QRP calls in the future and enjoy the QRP mentality and practice.

At the same time it is acceptable for the QRP station to further decrease its low transmitting power to the level where the communication between the two parties can be sustained.

Only one (1) QSO on each HF band can be logged for each day (time in UTC). We can therefore select to log the best QSO for each band.

**Attention!** The same station may be contacted on another band at the same day, only if it is operated from a different Locator.

Registered contacts having a distance of less than **200 kilometers** should not be logged, as they do not make sense.

For the calculation of the "contact distance" the following formula is being used:

$$Z = \frac{L}{\sqrt{P_1 * P_2}}$$

This formula has kindly been offered by RW3AA!

$Z = L / \text{square root } (P_1 * P_2)$

where:

L - distance, in kilometers

P1 and P2 - power of each station, in Watts

Z - the calculated QSO reference.

\* - is the multiplication operator

## QSO registration

Registration is carried out in cooperation with "radio club 72". Our logging results are entered to the program that runs on their own website and has been developed by Dmitry UR4MCK.

From the <http://aegeandxgroup.gr/> and the <http://aegeandxgroup.gr/sv-qrp-2.html> we click on the Marathon image.

The first thing we need to do is to create an account by clicking on the "**Create account**" tab and filling-in the required details.

### Create new account

<b>Callsign:</b>	<input type="text"/>	Type your plain Ham callsign, i.e. UA3ABC
<b>Password:</b>	<input type="password"/>	Minimal password length is 8 chars
<b>Retype password:</b>	<input type="password"/>	Type your password again for confirmation
<b>Real name:</b>	<input type="text"/>	Give us your real name, i.e. Mike
<b>QTH locator:</b>	<input type="text"/>	Specify your full grid locator, i.e. KO15LP
<b>E-mail:</b>	<input type="text"/>	On this e-mail you will get further information
<b>Language:</b>	English <input type="button" value="v"/>	Choose an interface language

#### Disclaimer

All the Marathon participants must to login at the Marathon page. Add your real call sign, name, WW-locator, e-mail and choose the password. The Marathon administrative group guarantee that all your personal data will be stored at the Marathon database and will not be open for anybody as well as not used for spam sending.

If you agree or disagree with it choose and mark below:

I agree

I not agree

In order to proceed registration you must agree with the above disclaimer

All fields are necessary

Software development by [ur4mck](#)  
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The process is fairly easy and when completed we have to wait to receive a confirmation with the "username" and "password" sent to the e-mail address that we have registered .

The user name and password data are visible only once in the "link" that will be included in the received e-mail.

Every time we want to register a single contact or multiple ones, we use those data to log-in to our account. Upon completing our task we can then log-out.

This is the entry form:

**Add new QSO**

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\*Date:  /  /

\*Time, UTC:  :

\*DX Call:

\*Band:

\*Mode:

\*LOC sent:

\*LOC received:

\*Power sent:  W

\*Power received:  W

Comments:

Mandatory fields highlighted

After the correct data entry for a QSO contact, by pressing the "QSO preview" button we are asked if we want to register it. At this point we can change to the best contact we have made for the said band and have it registered. Attention: Entries can only be made for **the previous and the current calendar day**. NOT for many days before.

**The reliability of the provided data is based on the participant's honesty.**

The coordinator of the whole Marathon task is the AegeanDXgroup/SV-QRP team. The results upon registration become public and are considered final, and as such they cannot be objected.

If we wish, we can every day look over the very fine statistics that are being provided by the software.

For the whole process of registration and idea about such contesting we have to thank Oleg, **RV3GM** pioneer of "club 72" and QRP, and of course Dmitry **UR4MCK** who has developed the software. Both they have offered it to our use with great pleasure and have offered hosting our Marathon activity on their web page.

For any further information, questions, or comments you may contact SV8CYR at the following e-mail address: [sv8cyr@gmail.com](mailto:sv8cyr@gmail.com)

Please study again the Rules till the very last moment.